raised by us with the Nepalese Government at an appropriate level and is currently under investigation. The issue relating to the curbing of ISI activities in Nepal has also been taken up at the highest level. India and Nepal have agreed to jointly coordinate measures to prevent the misuse of the open India Nepal border to counter activities directed against India.

Government have also been regularly taking up security related issues including the activities of the ISI, with the Government of Bangladesh at political levels, through diplomatic channels and institutional mechanisms existing between the two countries. Both sides have reconfirmed their resolve not to allow undesirable elements to use their territories for activities prejudicial to the security interests of each other.

Measures to control international terrorism

53. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the threat of international terrorism has increased recently especially after the hijacking of the Indian Airlines Plane from Kathmandu; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what measures are being taken to fight this menace with the cooperation of other countries?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) The threat of international terrorism, particularly to safety of civil aviation, continues following the hijacking of Indian Airlines plane from Kathmandu. The Government has actively worked towards building consensus against international terrorism in UN and other international fora. Indian efforts have succeeded in obtaining a decision of the General Assembly to begin negotiations on the Indian draft of a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism in September 2000. The Security Council have also adopted Resolution 1269 on the

problem of terrorism. India has also been actively in touch with other countries through bilateral channels.

Indo-US Joint Working Group

54. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the outcome of the first meeting of the Indo-US Joint Working Group (JWG) on counter terrorism held in Washington on 7th and 8th February, 2000.

(b) whether India furnished to United States the details of Pakistan sponsored terrorism in Kashmir and other parts of the country, particularly, the role of Pakistan and the Taliban in the recent hijacking of the Indian Airlines flight No. IC-814; and

(c) whether any joint-action plan formulated by JWG against the terrorist training camps in Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir and Afghanistan directing subversive activities against both the countries?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) The first meeting of the Indo-US Joint Working Group on Counter-terrorism took place in Washington D.C. on February 7-8, 2000. The two sides expressed concern at the growing menace of international terrorism, extremism, and drug trafficking. The two sides unequivocally condemned all acts, methods, and practices of terrorism, that may be invoked to justify them. The Indian Government agreed to the US offer of Anti-terrorism Assistance programs, the specifics to be determined in future visits. The group also decided to convene a meeting of each side's legal experts in April to discuss the Indian-proposed UN Terrorism Convention.

(b) The Indian side shared with the US side our information and assessment relating to the nature and origin of cross-border terrorism in India and to the identity of individuals and agencies involved in the hijacking of IC-814. The two sides agreed to intensify their joint cooperation to ensure that the perpetrators of the hijacking of Indian